

25X

ER 8-3541/a

22 JUN 1956

7/10/56

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: Brainwashing

REFERENCE: Your memorandum, CM-312-56, same subject, dated 7 June 1956.

1. The consideration given by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the preliminary report on brainwashing is appreciated. I concur in your view that there is need for additional studies.

a special informational campaign designed to dispel free world ignorance and fear of brainwashing, I believe would most properly be initiated by USIA or the Department of State. If such endeavor is undertaken, the CIA working groups will provide support as required.

3. If the Department of Defense initiates a program along the lines of your second suggestion, CIA will make available on request such support as may be required.

C. F. CABELL  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Acting Director

IF/EA/[ ] bcd (18 Jun 56)  
Rearm - O/DCI/[ ]:am (20 Jun 56)  
O&I - Addressee  
1 - DDCI  
1 - ER (via Reading) *not Basic*  
1 - DD/P  
1 - DPP  
1 - RI

(See below for concurrences.)

QCS

CONFIDENTIAL

2-5479

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

**SUBJECT:** Brainwashing

**REFERENCE:** Your memorandum, CM-312-56, same subject, dated 7 June 1956.

1. The consideration given by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the preliminary report on brainwashing is appreciated. I concur in your view that there is need for additional studies.

2. The nature of the programs you suggest raises the question as to the best place to initiate such studies. The development of a special informational campaign designed to dispel free world ignorance and fear of brainwashing, I believe would most properly be initiated by USIA or the Department of State. If such endeavor is undertaken, the CIA working groups will provide support as required.

3. If the Department of Defense initiates a program along the lines of your second suggestion, CIA will make available on request such support as may be required.

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PP/EA/[ ]/bcd

18 June 1956

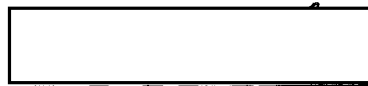
Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - DDCI
- 2 - Ex. Reg.
- 1 - DD/P
- 1 - CPP
- 1 - RI

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2017  
26/2/91  
C. P. CABELL  
Lieutenant General, USAF  
Acting Director



CPP



Frank G. Wisner, DD/P

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. DULLES

After you have noted I will show this to General Cabell and send on to DD/P and TSS for action and preparation of reply for your signature.

*OK  
Cable*

*Frank - see  
wants prompt  
reply made  
to this.*



(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

25X1



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Executive Registry

2-3541

25X

CM-312-56  
7 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Subject: Brainwashing

1. The Joint Staff considers the study on the above subject, which you sent me on 25 April, to be excellent. It is noted that this is a preliminary report on the subject, and that several working groups in CIA continue to be concerned with this problem.

2. The subject paper again highlights the need for two additional scientific studies, and it is hoped that the attention of your working groups may be drawn to this need. The first of these, it is believed, should be devoted to the development of a U.S. domestic-NATO-SEATO special information campaign to dispel free world ignorance and fear of brainwashing. The second is a program for equipping and preparing free world military personnel to withstand the brainwashing process successfully.

3. In the second additional study suggested, consideration might be given to applicable principles of "Militant Liberty" and the program employed by the United Nations Command in Korea to enable the anti-communist prisoners of war to withstand the communist "explanations", which were in effect brainwashing and which had been expected by the enemy to result in re-establishment of their domination over most if not all of the POWs. The latter program, while not so well formulated as Militant Liberty, presents very interesting parallels to it. The subject CIA study points out what was demonstrated through experience in Korea, the fact that the brainwashing process is almost as arduous for the interrogator as for the victim, and that the interrogator too is vulnerable. The enemy has a major personnel problem in providing sufficient skilled interrogators for mass brainwashing.

ARTHUR RADFORD  
Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**SECRET**

2-5407

15 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER, DD/P

SUBJECT : Brainwashing

1. In accordance with our telephone conversation, I am returning the memorandum from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Director on the above subject.

2. I note on the blue slip prepared by [ ] that there is an indication that it is desired that a reply be prepared for the signature of the DCI.

3. My colleagues and I have considered the possible role of [ ] in the preparation of such a reply and have come to the conclusion that we are unable to make an adequate response to the suggestions that Admiral Radford makes because the implementation of his proposals is quite outside the means or authority of this Staff. However, to us his suggestions do seem excellent, and we shall be glad to assist in any way possible although, of course, our assistance will be limited to technical aspects.

4. Possibly some other element of the DD/P will be able to provide an adequate response on behalf of the Agency. If not, perhaps the issue might be referred to the OCB; and possibly if the Director approves of this suggestion, a statement to that effect would in itself be the core of an adequate reply.

original signed by

[ ]

Chief, DD/P/ [ ]

Enclosure: (1)

Memo from Admiral Radford

DOCUMENTING  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.  
DECLASSIFIED  
CLASS. CHG. BY  
EX-100  
2/2/81

2511

[ ]

| SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM      |                  |              |                |
|--|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| UNCLASSIFIED   |                  | CONFIDENTIAL |                |
|  |                  | SECRET       |                |
| CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY<br>OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP |                  |              |                |
| TO   | NAME AND ADDRESS | INITIALS     | DATE           |
| 1  | DD/P             |              | JUN 14 '56 25X |
| 2  |                  |              |                |
| 3  |                  |              | 25X1           |
| 4  | C P P            |              | 18 June        |
| 5  |                  |              |                |
| 6  |                  |              |                |
| XX   | ACTION           | DIRECT REPLY | PREPARE REPLY  |
|  | APPROVAL         | DISPATCH     | RECOMMENDATION |
|  | COMMENT          | FILE         | RETURN         |
|  | CONCURRENCE      | INFORMATION  | SIGNATURE      |

**Remarks:**

Preparation of reply for DCI signature.  
DCI has requested that a prompt reply be made  
to this letter.

SUSPENSE: 19 June 1956

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

|      |                                   |           |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 25X1 | FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. | DATE      |
|      | Assist. to the Director           | 14 Jun 56 |